

IN THE CLAIMS

Page 38, line 1, change "Claims" to --What is claimed is:--.

Claims 1-43 (cancelled).

44. (New) A snap fastening for fast mounting of fittings such as socket wrench latches, swivel lever latches, hinge parts in openings in a thin wall, comprising:

a head part which is to be arranged on one, outer side of the thin wall and which overlaps an outer rim of the opening;

a body part which proceeds from the head part and projects through the opening in the mounted position;

holding elements which project from the body part and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, a free end of said holding elements being provided with a first inclined surface such that the holding element is pushed back in a spring-loaded manner by the opening edge and with a second inclined surface for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge of the opening of the other, inner side of the thin wall;

said second inclined surface being substantially perpendicular to the first inclined surface;

said body part, holding element and spring being separate parts;

said holding elements being slides which are arranged so as to be displaceable in a cylinder that is parallel to the plane of the thin wall and is rectangular in cross section; and

said slides being held against pressure spring force by a hook arrangement locking between the slides or in the cylinder, or by friction forces, or by a pin.

45. (New) The snap fastening of claim 44, wherein said first inclined surface is a run-in bevel and said second inclined surface is a stop bevel.

46. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein supporting elements are provided for supporting the holding elements after the fitting is mounted in the thin wall, said supporting elements being held or carried by the body part.

47. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 46, wherein two holding elements which are arranged diametrically opposite from one another are supported by spring arrangements such as spiral springs and/or wedge arrangements such as a tapered-head screw.

48. (New) A snap fastening for fast mounting of fittings such as socket wrench latches, swivel lever latches, hinge parts in openings in a thin wall, comprising:

a head part which is to be arranged on one, outer side of the thin wall and which overlaps the outer rim of the opening;

a body part which proceeds from the head part and projects through the opening in the mounted position;

holding elements which project from the body part and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, a free end of these holding elements being provided with a first inclined surface such that the holding element is pushed back in a spring-loaded manner by the opening edge and with a second inclined surface for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge of the opening of the other, inner side of the thin wall;

said second inclined surface being substantially perpendicular to said first inclined surface;

said body part, holding element and spring being separate parts; and

said holding elements being levers which are arranged at a distance from the thin wall so as to be rotatable around an axis extending parallel to the plane of the thin wall.

49. (New) The snap fastening of claim 48, wherein the first inclined surface is a run-in bevel and said second inclined surface is a stop bevel.

50. (New) A snap fastening for fast mounting of fittings such as socket wrench latches, swivel lever latches, hinge parts in openings in a thin wall, comprising:

a head part which is to be arranged on one, outer side of the thin wall and which overlaps the outer rim of the opening;

a body part which proceeds from the head part and projects through the opening in the mounted position;

holding elements which project from the body part and are flexible in direction of its outer surface, a free end of said holding elements being provided with a first inclined surface such that the holding element is pushed back in a spring-loaded manner by the opening edge and with a second inclined surface for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge of the opening of the other, inner side of the thin wall;

said second inclined surface being substantially perpendicular to said first inclined surface; and

said body part, holding element and spring being separate parts; and

said holding elements being levers which are arranged at a distance from the thin wall so as to be rotatable around an axis extending perpendicular to the plane of the thin wall.

51. (New) The snap fastening of claim 50, wherein the first inclined surface is a run-in bevel and the second inclined surface is a stop bevel.

52. (New) A snap fastening for fast mounting of fittings such as socket wrench latches, swivel lever latches, hinge parts in openings in a thin wall, comprising:

a head part which is to be arranged on one, outer side of the thin wall and which overlaps the outer rim of the opening;

a body part which proceeds from the head part and projects through the opening in the mounted position, and holding elements which project from the body part and are flexible in direction of its outer surface;

a free end of said holding elements being provided with a first inclined surface such that the holding element is pushed back in a spring-loaded manner by the opening edge and with a second inclined surface for supporting the body part without play on the rim or edge of the opening of the other, inner side of the thin wall;

said second inclined surface being substantially perpendicular to the first inclined surface;

said body part, holding element and spring being separate parts; and

said holding elements being plates which can be guided by inclined guide surfaces and which are moved toward the thin wall during an outward movement.

53. (New) The snap fastening of claim 52, wherein the first inclined surface is a run-in bevel and the second inclined surface is a stop bevel.

54. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding element is a part which is flat in the movement direction, and a strip proceeds from one or both lateral edges of the part for improved guidance in the movement direction.

55. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding element has a projection or recess which cooperates with a recess or projection, which determines the travel in the movement direction and which is carried or formed by the body part or cylinder.

56. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding element has a substantially rectangular opening which extends in the movement direction and in which a spiral pressure spring is inserted.

57. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 56, wherein the holding element is a part which is flat in the movement direction and which has a width that is less than the round diameter of the spring.

58. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 57, wherein the holding element holds a buckling spring.

59. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 56, wherein the channel receiving the holding element enters into a clamping engagement with a portion of the spring projecting out of the holding element.

60. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 56, wherein the holding element has two lateral nests located across from one another for receiving one half of the width of the spring, and the channel has a suitably dimensioned offset for the rest of the spring width.

61. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 56, wherein when two holding elements are arranged side by side these holding elements have projections at the transverse edges of the respective opening for receiving the spring, which projections project into the other respective opening and form supporting surfaces for the spring.

62. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 56, wherein the holding element comprises an assembly of a first, a second, and possibly additional flat parts, each with a rectangular opening, which have a common opening for receiving a spiral pressure spring in a flush manner in such a way that the spiral spring is pressed into the work position in the unloaded state.

63. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 55, wherein the holding element is a part which is flat in the movement direction and which has an opening, and projections for orienting the spiral spring proceed from the side edges of the flat part which extend transverse to the movement direction.

64. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding element is accommodated in a housing which, in turn, can be mounted in a thick wall.

65. (New). The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding element has inclined surfaces having identical run-in and run-out angles and accordingly works as a ball catch.

66. (New). The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding element in front of the run-in bevel forms a straight-line centering surface.

67. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding element forms projection surfaces, offset surfaces or threaded surfaces in which a tool such as a wrench or screwdriver blade can engage for displacing the holding element or holding elements into the pushed back position.

68. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein when the two diametrically oppositely arranged holding elements are loaded to different extents, such as when a sash is used, the holding element upon which the smaller load is exerted is made of flexible plastic such as polyamide and the other holding element, upon which the greater load is exerted, is made of rigid material such as metal.

69. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding elements are slides comprising a rigid material such as metal which are arranged so as to be displaceable in a cylinder which is parallel to the plane of the thin wall and is rectangular in

cross section and are held against pressure spring force by a pin arrangement that is arranged between the slides.

70. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 69, wherein the pin arrangement comprises screws that can be screwed into the head part.

71. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 70, wherein the screws determine the extent of the movement of the holding elements.

72. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the body part or cylinder has a partial dividing wall or undercut or opening edge at which the slides or lever are supported axially by a shoulder or hook.

73. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding elements are formed by displaceably supported slides whose movement axis extends perpendicular to the longitudinal extension of the fitting.

74. (New) The snap fastening according to claims 44, wherein the holding elements are formed by displaceably supported slides whose movement axis extends parallel to the longitudinal extension of the fitting.

75. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the holding element is formed by a stamped part.

76. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the head part has an offset in the area of the holding element for receiving edge bulges.

77. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein two or more holding elements are arranged side by side.

78. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the body part and head part are injection molded to form one piece.

79. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the body part and head part are two parts which are screwed together or welded together or snapped together.

80. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the fitting is a swivel lever latch or a folding lever latch for fastening in an elongated opening or in two shorter rectangular openings, wherein one opening receives a lever bearing and the other opening receives a lever stop wherein at least one of the openings also serves to receive at least one body part with holding elements.

81. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 79, wherein the swivel lever latch or folding lever latch has a trough for receiving the actuating lever in a lockable manner, wherein the trough forms the head part of one or two body parts with holding elements in the area of the lever bearing such as a drive shaft.

82. The snap fastening according to claim 79, wherein the swivel lever latch or folding lever latch has a trough for receiving the actuating lever in a lockable manner, wherein the trough forms the surface behind which the cam of a lever stop engages on the one hand and forms the head part of a body part with holding elements in the area of the lever stop on the other hand.

83. The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the fitting is a hinge part.

84. The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the fitting is a bar guide.

85. The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the fitting is a lock case.

86. The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the fitting is a grip pipe.

87. The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the fitting is a socket wrench bearing.

88. The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the fitting is a sash latch.

89. (New) The snap fastening according to claim 44, wherein the fitting is a grip projection.